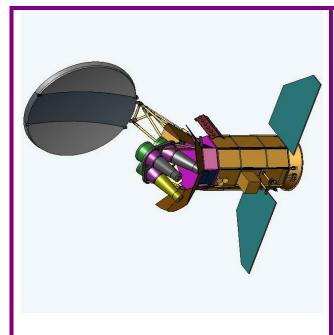


Mission Description Summary





Salient Features

- L-band Radiometer / Scatterometer
- Argentina (CONAE) Provided Spacecraft (SAC-D) & mission operations component
- Dedicated Delta II launch vehicle
- Launch date: September 2008
- Operational life: 3 years
- Science Partnership with CONAE
- Aquarius PI (Acting): Dr. Gary Lagerloef, ESR
- SAC-D Principal Investigator : Dr. Raul Colomb, CONAE
- Project Manager: Amit Sen, JPL
- Aquarius Project Scientist: Dr. Yi Chao, JPL
- Program Executive: Mike Tanner, NASA HQ
- Aquarius Mission Manager: Tom Magner, GSFC
- ESSP Formulation Program Manager: Dr. Steven Bard, JPL

Science

- First precise global, space-based observations of Sea Surface Salinity (SSS)
- Produce global salinity maps (0.2 psu) on a monthly basis
- Chart seasonal and year-to-year variations of SSS
- Observe & model the process that relate salinity variations to climate changes in the global cycling of water. Understand how these variations influence ocean circulation
- · Aquarius will provide an unprecedented view of ocean's role in climate and weather



